

## **The Seven Churches – 2**

### **The Church at Smyrna**

Begin by reading through Revelation 2:8-11. Make a note of anything especially striking and of anything that you do not understand.

#### **Exploring the church at Smyrna – Questions on the passage**

Question 1 – How is Jesus described? (vs 8) What do you think the significance of this description is for the church in Smyrna?

Question 2 – What does Jesus say that He knows about the church? (vs 9)

Question 3 – Why does Jesus say that they are rich? (vs 9)

Question 4 – What does the future hold for this church? (v 10) Why does Jesus say this will only last for ten days?

Question 5 – What does Jesus call upon the Christians in Smyrna to do? (vs 10)

Question 6 – What does Jesus promise the church if they overcome? (vs 10,11)

#### **‘He who has an ear, let him hear’ – Questions for Application**

Jesus calls the church at Smyrna ‘rich’. How does the modern church’s idea of being rich church compare with Jesus definition?

What advice does Jesus offer here about how we should live in a hostile culture?

How inspired do you think that we are as Christians today by the prospect of eternal reward and eternal life?

We may not face open persecution as churches today but are there other ways in which we need to heed Jesus call to perseverance?

How does the fact that Jesus knows about the sufferings of His people and has a purpose for them help us to deal with them?